

48

His Majesties  
MOST GRACIOUS  
S P E E C H  
To Both Houses of  
P A R L I A M E N T,  
WITH THE  
LORD KEEPERS,  
On Monday February 14, 1669.

By His Majesties Command.



DUBLIN,

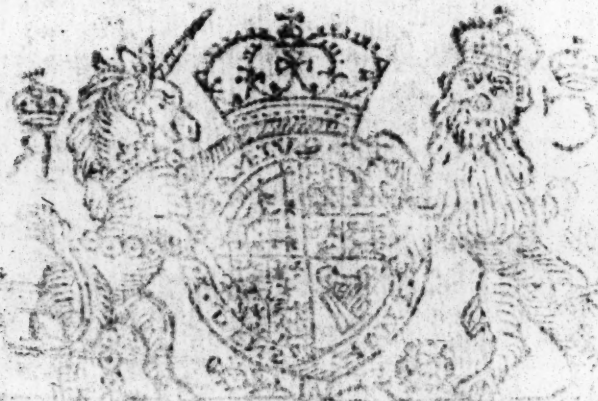
Printed by Benjamin Tooke, Printer to the King most  
Excellent Majesty, and are to be sold by  
Samuel Dancer, in Castlestreet.

THE  
OFFICE

OF THE  
ORDERS

OF THE

OF THE



DUBLIN

Printed by J. Smith, at the Press of the  
General Assembly, and are to be sold by  
James Dancer, in Cambridge



His Majesties most Gracious Speech to  
both Houses of Parliament, With  
the Lord Keepers, on Monday, Febru-  
ary 14, 1669.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

**I** Sent forth My Proclamation that there might be a  
good appearance at this Meeting, having most con-  
fidence in full Houses, where the wel being of the  
Church, and all other Interests of the Crown and  
Nation are best secured.

When we last met, I asked you a Supply, and I ask it  
now again with greater Instance: the uneasiness and straight-  
ness of my Affairs cannot continue without very ill Effects  
to the whole Kingdom: Consider this seriously and speedi-  
ly; it is yours and the Kingdoms Interest as well as Mine;  
and the ill consequence of a want of an effectuall Supply  
must not lye at my Door: And that no misapprehensions or  
mistakes touching the Expences of the last War may remain  
with you, I think fit to let you know, that I have fully in-  
formed My Self in that Matter, and do affirm to you, That  
no part of those Moneys that you gave me for that War,  
have been diverted to other uses; but on the contrary, be-  
sides all those Supplies, a very great sum hath been raised  
out of my standing Revenue and Credit, and a very great  
Debt contracted, and all for the War.

A. 2.

One.



One thing I must earnestly recommend to the prudence of both Houses, that you will not suffer any occasion of difference between your selves to be revived; since nothing but the unity of your Minds and Counsels, can make this Meeting happy either to Me or to the Nation.

I did recommend to you at our last Meeting, the Union of the two Kingdoms, and I did the same to my Parliament in Scotland, they have made a great step towards it; and I do again seriously recommend that Matter to you.

I have directed My Lord Keeper to speak more at large to you.

THE



## *The Lord Keepers Speech.*

*My Lords, and you Knights, Citizens and Burgeses of the House of Commons,*

**A**T your last meeting, His Majesty did acquaint you with the great occasions, He had for a Supply, and that he had forborn to ask it sooner, more in consideration of giving some time, for the ease of the people after the burden of the War: then that the condition of His Affairs could so long have wanted it: And His Majesty hath commanded me now, to speak more fully and plainly upon this Subject.

His Majesty hath not only by His Ministers, but in His own Royal Person examined the Accompts, touching the Expences of the last War, and hath thought himself concerned to let you know, That all the Supplies which you gave Him for the War, have been by Him applied to the War, and no part of them to any other uses: Nay so far from it, that if the Preparations towards the War, shall be taken to be for the use of the War as they must be: A great part of His own Revenue, to many Hundred thousands of pounds hath been employed also, and swallowed up in the Charges of the War, and what did necessarily relate to it: To which may be added the great Debts contracted by His Majesty in the War, and the great Charge in the Repairs of the

the

the Hulls of His Ships, and putting His Navy into such a condition as it was before.

Besides, His Majesty thinks it ought to be considered, That when the Charges of the War, were at the highest, the inevitable effects of it, and those other calamities, which it pleased God at that time to bring upon us, did make so great a diminution in His Revenues, that besides all other accidents and disadvantages, the loss that he sustained in Three Branches of His Revenues: In His Customs, Excise, and Hearth-money, by reason of the War, the Plague, and the Fire, did amount to little less than Six hundred thousand pounds.

Thus you see. That though your Supplies have been great, yet the Charges occasioned by the War, and the Calamities which accompanied it, have been greater. And that the Debt which is left upon His Majesty, and which he complains of, hath been contracted by the War, and not by the diversion of the moneys designed for it.

His Majesty hath commanded me to say one thing more to you upon this Subject, That he did not enter into this War upon any private inclination or appetite of His own: The first step he made towards it, did arise from your Advice, and the promises of your Assistance; But if the Charges and Accidents of the War have out gone all your Supplies, and left him under the burden of this Debt, He thinks that as well the Justice to your Promise, as the Duty and Loyalty you have always shewed him, will oblige you to relieve him from it: And the rather, when you shall seriously consider how uneasy this burden must be to him, and what consequences the continuance under it must draw upon



all His Affairs : In which particular, you, and every person you represent in this Nation, will be concerned, as well as himself.

His Majesty doth therefore command me in His Name, to desire you once more, and to conjure you, by that constant Duty and Loyalty which you have **always** expressed to him, and by all the concernment you have, for the Support of the Honour and Safety of His Government, to provide such a Supply for him at this time, as may bear proportion to the pressing Occasions that He hath, and to the state of His Affairs at home and abroad, And so speedily and so effectually, as may answer the ends for which he hath desired it.

His Majesty hath further commanded me to put you in mind of what was at your last meeting proposed to you, concerning an Union between the two Kingdoms, and to let you know, That the Parliament of Scotland hath since declared to His Majesty, That such Commissioners as His Majesty shall name, shall be authorized on their part: to treat with Commissioners for this Kingdom, upon the Grounds and Conditions of the Union : His Majesty therefore thought fit now again to recommend it to you, to take that matter effectually into your Consideration.

**F I N I S.**